

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7983

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USMTN

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CAPTION "USMTN" ADDED)

PASS STR FOR INFO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MT, UNCTAD

SUB:COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES; SECRETARIAT DOCUMENT ON MTN

REF: GENEVA 4180

1. IN PREPARATION FOR AGENDA ITEM 3(A) (I) ON MTN AT JULY
4-8 COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES, UNCTAD SECRETARIAT HAS PREPARED
REPORT TD/B/C.2/177, "DEVELOPMENTS AND ISSUES IN THE MULTI-
LATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES." (REPORT WAS PREPARED BY MAGLAQUE OF
MANUFACTURES DIVISION, AND NOT BY UNCTAD/MTN PROJECT STAFF,
WHO FOLLOW MTN DEVELOPMENTS MORE EXPERTLY.) PART 1 OF REPORT
CONSISTS OF LARGELY FACTUAL REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN MTN
SINCE INCTAD IV. REPORT NOTES THAT THE "...SLOW PACE OF THE
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NEGOTIATIONS...HAS GIVEN RISE TO CONSIDERABLE DISAPPOINTMENT,
FRUSTRATION, AND GRAVE DOUBTS ON THE PART OF DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES AS TO THE EVENTUAL OUTCOME OF THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR
THEM." PART II REVIEWS UNCTAD RESPONSIBILITIES AND ROLE
IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, NOTING RESOLU-
TIONS AT UNCTAD III AND IV AND AT UNGA. REPORT NOTES
PARA 15 OF UNCTAD IV RESOLUTION 91, WHICH LISTS LDC GOALS

IN THE MTN WHICH ARE NOT FULLY ACCEPTABLE TO DC'S, AND STATES THAT MEETING PROVIDES A TIMELY OPPORTUNITY FOR "...FURTHER DISCUSSION AND, AS APPROPRIATE, CONSULTATIONS" CONCERNING THE ISSUES OF CONCERN TO LDC'S.

2. POSSIBLE MOST TROUBLING IN REPORT IS PARA 33, WHICH STATES THAT UNCTAD CONTINUES TO BE HAMPERED IN EFFECTIVELY DISCHARGING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES BY THE INADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING ATTENDANCE AT MTN MEETINGS AND TIMELY RECEIPT OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS, EVEN THOUGH UNCTAD IV, RESOLUTION 91, WHICH DEALT WITH THIS ISSUE, WAS FORWARDED TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF GATT. THE REPORT GOES ON TO STATE THAT "...THE UNCTAD SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD CONSIDER INITIATING FURTHER CONSULTATIONS AND PRESENT SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS TO THE PARTIES CONCERNED."

3. COMMENT: UNCTAD PARTICIPATION IN THE MTN MEETINGS WAS CAREFULLY NEGOTIATED BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER 1973 TOKYO MINISTERIAL. GATT DG LONG INTERPRETS AGREEMENT TO ONLY BE THAT EACH MTN MEETING WILL DECIDE ON AD HOC BASIS WHETHER OR NOT TO ADMIT AN UNCTAD OBSERVER. TO DATE, UNCTAD OBSERVER HAS BEEN ROUTINELY INVITED TO ALL MTN MEETINGS. GATT SECRETARIAT, HOWEVER, DOES NOT FURNISH UNCTAD OBSERVER WITH ANY OF THE MTN DOCUMENTATION, WITH THE UNCTAD OBSERVER OBTAINING ONLY THAT DOCUMENTATION WHICH IS AVAILABLE IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE INDIVIDUAL MEETING. UNCTAD/MTN PROJECT OFFICIALS HAVE COM-

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PLAINED FROM TIME TO TIME OF THEIR NONRECEIPT FROM GATT SECRETARIAT OF DOCUMENTATION ISSUED BETWEEN MEETINGS OF PARTICULAR GROUPS, INCLUDING GATT AIRGRAMS ANNOUNCING MEETING DATES AND AGENDA, ALTHOUGH IN PRACTICE, THEY OBTAIN ANY DOCUMENTATION NEEDED FROM INTERTESTED LDC DELEGATIONS. ANY EFFORT BY UNCTAD SECRETARY GENERAL TO IMPROVE UPON EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS IS LIKELY TO BE RESISTED BY GATT DIRECTOR-GENERAL AS REQUIRING DECISION OF TNC AND IS LIKELY TO MEET CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION FROM MOST DC DELEGATIONS, ESPECIALLY AS TIME IS APPROACHING WHEN QUESTION MAY ARISE WHETHER TO EXCLUDE UNCTAD OBSERVER FROM MTN NEGOTIATING SESSIONS.

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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